

The following biographical sketch of William N. Rude is from COMMEMORATIVE BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD OF NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA INCLUDING THE COUNTIES OF SUSQUEHANNA, WAYNE, PIKE AND MONROE, CONTAINING BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF PROMINENT AND REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS, AND MANY OF THE EARLY SETTLED FAMILIES (Chicago, J. H. Beers and Co., 1900) p. 1265:

WILLIAM N. RUDE, a leading agriculturist of Wayne county, owns and operates a valuable farm in Clinton township, whose neat and thrifty appearance well indicates his careful supervision. Substantial improvements are surrounded by well tilled fields, and there are found all the accessories and conveniences of a model farm.

Nathan Rude, Sr. (grandfather of our subject), was a native of Norwich, New London co., Conn., and in the winter of 1799-1800 came with his family to Pennsylvania, where he died at the extreme old age of ninety-eight years. His son, Nathan, Jr., was born September 10, 1776, and was married October 15, 1798, to Miss Rachel, daughter of Rev. William Purdy, of Paupack township, Wayne county. Their children were: Phoebe J., who was born December 14, 1830, and is now a widow living in Ohio; William N., the subject of this sketch; and Lorain W., who was born April 28, 1835, and is a resident of Walton, New York.

In Mt. Pleasant township, Wayne county, William N. Rude was born February 15, 1833, and in early life learned the carpenter's and joiner's trade, which he followed for seven years in Mt. Pleasant, Penn. He then purchased a farm in Clinton township, Wayne county, which he operated for six years, and subsequently for several years he engaged in lumber dealing and farming in Paupack township. In 1877, however, he returned to his farm in Clinton township, and to its cultivation and improvement he has since devoted his time and attention with most gratifying results. The place comprises 294 acres of rich and arable land, which he has converted into one of the most desirable farms of the locality.

On March 22, 1865, Mr. Rude was united in marriage with Miss Helen Fritz, a daughter of Mandus and Christina (Keane) Fritz, both natives of Bavaria, Germany. In the Fritz family were the following children: Caroline (deceased); Annette, wife of John Krug, of New York City; Helen J., wife of our subject; Julia E., widow of William S. King, and a resident of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mary (deceased); Margaret A., widow of T. Corbey, and a resident of Brooklyn; Christina, who died at the age of eleven years; and Henry, who died in infancy. Four children bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Rude, namely: (1) Alfred N. and (2) William E., twins, born May 7, 1866. The former became a detective and was drowned in the Rock river at Janesville, Wis. The latter was reared on the home farm, began his education